



**NORTHEAST ENERGY  
EFFICIENCY COUNCIL**

A business association of the energy efficiency industry

44 Capitol Avenue \* Hartford, CT 06106 \* 860-241-8990\* neec.org

**Energy & Technology Committee  
Public Hearing  
March 7, 2013**

**HB 6360-AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF CONNECTICUT'S  
COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY STRATEGY**

The Northeast Energy Efficiency Council- Connecticut Chapter (NEEC-CT), is a business association of the energy efficiency industry, a large and growing part of Connecticut's economy. NEEC-CT members include a wide variety of firms that provide energy efficiency products and services, including manufacturers, energy service companies, engineering firms, electrical contractors, lighting and equipment suppliers, HVAC and insulation contractors, builders, architects, and many others.

NEEC-CT supports a number of sections of **HB 6360-AAC Implementation of Connecticut's Comprehensive Energy Strategy**.

NEEC-CT submitted testimony during the hearings on the draft Comprehensive Energy Strategy and noted that energy efficiency is a clear winner for Connecticut's economy, environment and all of its citizens. We are so glad the Governor and Legislature are working on this for Connecticut. HB 6360 is the next step in the process of reaching the objective of cheaper, cleaner and more reliable energy for Connecticut.

NEEC-CT supports Section 2 of the bill, which requires a multi-year plan for energy efficiency. Currently, an annual plan is done. This bill would change it so every three years gas companies, in coordination with electric distribution companies, submit to the Energy Efficiency Board (though called the ECMB in the bill) a combined gas and electric plan. This change will be beneficial for work plans and budgets.

NEEC-CT supports provisions found in Section 11 and Section 12 of the proposed bill, which will empower owners to market their energy efficiency buildings. Disclosing the energy usage of homes for sale and of some apartments and commercial buildings will help prospective buyers and tenants save money and reward building owners who invest in efficiency. This proposal will allow sellers a greater incentive to incorporate energy efficient measures in their homes, while allowing buyers to have the information they need to know the energy costs in that residence.

NEEC-CT would like to see in the final version of the bill, a steady funding mechanism to allow residents who use oil to access Connecticut's award winning efficiency programs. The state's goal of weatherizing 80% of the homes by 2030 can only be met with more residential customers using the efficiency programs. By weatherizing homes, residents see an immediate decrease in their energy bills. This work will also create jobs.

Connecticut administrators understand how cost effective energy efficiency measures are. Energy Efficiency is the way to go. There is a large return on an investment. Energy efficiency measures are documented and verified through independent evaluations and audits. There is a 4 to1 return on energy efficiency investments. For every \$1 invested, the return is more than \$4 in savings. These savings benefit everyone in Connecticut. Businesses and residential rate payers will have more money in their pockets, which may then be spent on other goods in Connecticut. With a larger commitment to energy efficiency, more can be done that will benefit all residents. With Massachusetts and Rhode Island continuing to increase their commitment to energy efficiency, Connecticut needs to do the same to keep our businesses competitive and in the state. The energy efficiency programs are an alternative to high bills.

Thank you for your time. We look forward to continuing discussing HB 6360.